

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 COPENH 01884 130832Z

10

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11

EA-11 FRB-02 INR-10 IO-13 NEA-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

OPIC-12 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 L-03

PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-15 H-03 RSR-01 /154 W

----- 070380

R 101815Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7463

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS UNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE COPENHAGEN 1884

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: ELAB PINT DA US

SUBJ: HOPE COMPUTER CASE- PRECEDENT-SETTING

LABOR CONFLICT INVOLVES AMERICAN FIRM

SUMMARY: TRIAL OF NINE UNION LEADERS CHARGED WITH ILLEGALLY  
BLOCKADING AMERICAN COMPUTER FIRM IN HADSUND HAS ATTRACTED  
NATION-WIDE INTEREST. TRIAL COMMENCED AUGUST 6 WITH DECISION  
EXPECTED WEEK OF AUGUST 20-24. ALTHOUGH BLOCKADE ACTIONS WILL  
PROBABLY BE JUDGED ILLEGAL, TRADE UNIONMOVEMENT HAS BEEN FORCED TO  
GIVE GENERAL SUPPORT TO INDICTED OFFICIALS BECAUSE CASE IS  
SEEN AS EXAMPLE OF BROADER PROBLEM - THE FEAR THAT ARRIVAL IN  
DENMARK OF FOREIGN WORKERS AND FOREIGN COMPANIES FOLLOWING COUN-  
TRY'S ACCESSION TO COMMON MARKET WILL DISRUPT OR ERODE TRADITIONAL  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 COPENH 01884 130832Z

DANISH SYSTEM OF LABOR MANAGEMENT RELATIONS. CASE STIMULATING SOME

ANTI-AMERICAN AND ANTI-MULTINATIONAL CORPORATION SENTIMENT. END  
SUMMARY

1. TRIAL OF SEVEN LOCAL UNION OFFICIALS AND TWO OTHER PESONS FOR  
ILLEGALLY BLOCKADING HOPE COMPUTER CORPORATION AT HADSUND, JUTLAND,  
JANUARY 10-11, COMMENCED AUGUST 6. SIMULTANEOUSLY, 1500 TO 2000  
DEMONSTRATORS REPRESENTING TRADE UNION ORGANIZATIONS THROUGHOUT JUT-  
LAND MARCHED TO COURTHOUSE TO PROTEST INDICTMENTS BEING RAISED  
AGAINST THE NINE. TRIAL HAS AROUSED FRONT-PAGE INTEREST AND IS  
EMBARRASSMENT BOTH TO DANISH TRADE UNION MOVEMENT AND SOCIAL  
DEMOCRATIC GOVT. TRIAL EXPECTED TO LAST TWO WEEKS.

2. LEGAL ISSUE EMERGING FROM FIRST WEEK'S TESTIMONY IS WHETHER  
BLOCKADE INTENTIONALLY AND EFFECTIVELY PREVENTED COMPANY'S  
EMPLOYEES AND VISITORS FROM LEAVING PREMISES DURING TWELVE-HOUR  
BLOCKADE. ALTHOUGH DEFENSE MAINTAINS THIS WAS NOT INTENTION, TV  
FILM STRIP AND TESTIMONY OF EMPLOYEES IS EXPECTED TO CONFIRM THAT  
VIOLATION OF CRIMINAL CODE'S PARA 261 (ILLEGAL DEPRIVATION OF  
A PERSON'S FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT) DID OCCUR. ALTHOUGH CONVICTION  
COULD CARRY PRISON SENTENCE, PROSECUTOR HAS STATED THAT HE INTENDS  
ONLY TO SEEK IMPOSITION OF FINES.

3. IN ADDITION TO LEGAL QUESTION, HOWEVER, CASE INVOLVES IMPORTANT  
LABOR MANAGEMENT RELATIONS ISSUE. FOLLOWING DANISH ACCESSION TO EC  
LAST JANUARY 1, DANISH TRADE UNION FEDERATION (LO) HAS BEEN CONCER-  
NED THAT FOREIGN COMPANIES TAKING OVER DANISH FIRMS OR ESTABLISH-  
ING NEW COMPANIES IN DENMARK WOULD SEEK TO EVADE EXTENSIVE OBLI-  
GATIONS TRADITIONAL IN DANISH LABOR MANAGEMENT RELATIONS. MORE-  
OVER, LO FEAR THAT FOREIGN "GUEST" WORKERS MIGHT PROVIDE NON-ORGANI-  
ZED LABOR POOL HAS BEEN IMPORTANT FACTOR BEHIND GOVT'S YEAR-LONG  
FREEZE ON IMPORTATION OF GUEST WORKERS. RECENT ATTEMPT BY GERMAN  
FIRM TO IMPORT GERMAN LABORERS TO BREAK STRIKE BY DANISH UNION  
HAS STOKED THAT FEAR. DESPITE POSSIBLE ILLEGALITY OF BLOCKADE,  
MORE FUNDAMENTAL AND THUS FAR LEGALLY UNCLEAR QUESTION OF HOW FAR  
UNIONS CAN GO IN PRESSURING FIRMS TO ACCEPT UNION ORGANIZATION  
(DASF) LEADERSHIP, AS WELL AS DANISH LABOR CONFEDERATION (LO)  
LEADERSHIP, TO GIVE GENERAL IF RELUCTANT SUPPORT TO THE INDICTED  
OFFICIALS. DEMONSTRATION AUGUST 6 INCLUDED REPRESENTATIVES FROM  
LABOR UNIONS AND LABOR ORGANIZATIONS ALL OVER DENMARK AND LO  
CHAIRMAN THOMAS NIELSEN FELT COMPELLED TO ATTEND DEMONSTRATION AND  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 COPENH 01884 130832Z

TRIAL, EVEN THOUGH HE DID SO IN EQUIVOCAL ROLE OF "OBSERVER".  
ADDITIONAL DELICATE ASPECT DERIVES FROM FACT THAT COMMUNIST AND LEFT  
-SOCIALIST ELEMENTS WITHIN DANISH LABOR MOVEMENT HAVE IDENTIFIED  
THEMSELVES STRONGLY WITH CAUSE OF BLOCKADE LEADERS. ONE SPEAKER  
AT AUGUST 6 DEMONSTRATION QUESTIONED SINCERITY OF LO SUPPORT  
FOR THE ACCUSED AND CHARGED PRIME MINISTER ANKER JORGENSEN  
WITH BEING VASSAL OF BOURGEOISE INTERESTS BECAUSE HE PERMITTED CASE  
TO COME TO TRIAL. THIS LEFT-WING LABOR ELEMENT HAS THREATENED WIDE

-SPREAD LABOR CONFLICT IF UNION OFFICIALS ARE CONVICTED.

4. DESPITE INSIGNIFICANT SIZE OF HOPE COMPANY (UNDER TWENTY EMPLOYEES), UNCOMPROSMING POSITION TAKEN BY ITS MANAGEMENT IS NOW BECOMING IDENTIFIED WITH "AMERICAN METHODS" OF LABOR MANAGEMENT RELATIONS. FLAMBOYANT STYLE OF RIRM'S DANISH DIRECTOR T. BARSOE-CARNFELDT, WHO, CONTRARY TO REFTEL HAD NOT BEEN REMOVED BY AMERICAN PARENT COMPANY, HAS MADE IT EASTY FOR LEFT-WING PRESS TO IDENTIFY HIS PERSONAL POLICY WITH "AMERICAN METHODS". (HE HAS AMERICAN FLAG PROMINENTLY DISPLAYED IN LOBBY O FIRM AND USED SO MUCH AMERICAN BUSINESS SLANG IN HIS TESTIMONY THAT JUDGE REMINDED HIM THAT DANISH WAS LANGUAGE OF THE COURT.) UNDER PRESSURE FROM DEFENSE ATTORNEY AUGUST 6, HOWEVER, CARNFELDT ADMITTED THAT REFUSAL TO SIGN LABOR CONTRACT WAS MORE HIS POLICY THAN THAT OF FIRM'S AMERICAN PRESIDENT, HENRY HOPE.

5. COMMENTS: SIGNIFICANT ASPECT OF THIS CASE IS SUCCESS LEFT-WING ELEMENTS IN DANISH TRADE UNION MOVEMENT HAVE HAD IN FORCING LO AND DASF LEADERSHIP TO SUPPORT THEIR DUBIOUS ACTION. RANK AND FILE SYMPATHY HAS BEEN MOBILIZED ON SIDE OF NINE ACCUSED, AND ATMOSPHERE AT HADSUND DEMONSTRATION AUGUST 6 WAS REMINISCENT OF 1931 AADALEN INCIDENT IN SWEDEN. WITH REGARDS TO ANTI-AMERICAN OVERTONES,WE CAN HOPE THAT DEFENSE COUNSEL SUCCEEDS IN FASTENING RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANTI-UNION POLICY ON CONTROVERSIAL DANISH DIRECTOR.

DUNNIGAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 AUG 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** hilburpw  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973COPENH01884  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** COPENHAGEN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730846/aaaabhpstel  
**Line Count:** 140  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** hilburpw  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 10 SEP 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <10-Sep-2001 by hilburpw>; APPROVED <19-Sep-2001 by hilburpw>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** HOPE COMPUTER CASE- PRECEDENT-SETTING LABOR CONFLICT INVOLVES AMERICAN FIRM  
**TAGS:** ELAB, PINT, DA, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005